(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that since the eligible institutions/banks under SIDBI's refinance scheme assume full credit risk in respect of loans extended by them to SSI units, it has not stipulated any security or margin under its refinance schemes. The eligible institutions and banks are free to obtain security in respect of their term loans as deemed fit. Eligible institutions normally obtain a first charge on the assets of the borrowing SSI units by way of equitable mortgage of fixed assests and hypothecation of movable assets. These assets are usually comprehensively insured against risks such as fire, riot, theft etc.

As regards collateral security, RBI has issued guidelines to commercial banks laying down that in respect of advances over Rs. 25,000, collateral security by way of immovable properties or third party guarantee may be asked for only in cases where primary security is inadequate or for other valid reasons and not as a matter of routine.

Input Data in respect of consumption norms

1688. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry are accepting the input data based on the recommendations of DGTD in respect of consumption norms;

(b) whether it is a fact that DGTD consumption norms are not based on actuality but are not theoretical; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken for final certification from Cost Accounts Branch of his Ministry in respect of consumption norms?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) In respect of studies carried out by the Cost Accounts Branch of the Ministry of Finance for Cost/price determination, consumption norms are arrived at after taking into account several factors such as actual consumption pattern, design norms as per project report etc. Assistance of DGTD in determining consumption norms is sought for only in cases wherever considered absolutely necessary. The input data are based upon the consumption norms evolved by the Cost Accounts Branch in each case.

Complaints against functioning of BIFR

1689. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that complaints against the functioning of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction are growing; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to remove the cause of complaints?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Certain observations regarding time taken in disposal of cases by BIFR have been made and suggestions from various quarters received recommending changes in the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. The suggestions for changes in the Act would be considered whenever amendments to this Act are taken up.

Alleged irregularities by General Manager of Ferroscrap Nigam Limited

1690. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the General Manager of Ferroscrap Nigam Limited, a Government of India Undertaking under his Ministry with ulterior motive purchased five Magnetic Separators costing about four crore of rupees which were not fit for operation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the jobs of regular nature which could easily